

CURRENT STATUS OF ALL CLAIMS

The Claims pending in the application are 109-166.

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| 109. (currently amended) | 138. (previously presented) |
| 110. (previously presented) | 139. (previously presented) |
| 111. (previously presented) | 140. (previously presented) |
| 112. (previously presented) | 141. (previously presented) |
| 113. (previously presented) | 142. (previously presented) |
| 114. (previously presented) | 143. (previously presented) |
| 115. (previously presented) | 144. (previously presented) |
| 116. (previously presented) | 145. (previously presented) |
| 117. (previously presented) | 146. (previously presented) |
| 118. (previously presented) | 147. (previously presented) |
| 119. (previously presented) | 148. (previously presented) |
| 120. (previously presented) | 149. (previously presented) |
| 121. (previously presented) | 150. (previously presented) |
| 122. (cancelled) | 151. (previously presented) |
| 123. (previously presented) | 152. (previously presented) |
| 124. (previously presented) | 153. (previously presented) |
| 125. (previously presented) | 154. (previously presented) |
| 126. (currently amended) | 155. (previously presented) |
| 127. (previously presented) | 156. (previously presented) |
| 128. (previously added) | 157. (previously presented) |
| 129. (previously added) | 158. (previously presented) |
| 130. (previously presented) | 159. (previously presented) |
| 131. (previously presented) | 160. (previously presented) |
| 132. (previously presented) | 161. (previously presented) |
| 133. (previously added) | 162. (previously presented) |
| 134. (previously presented) | 163. (currently amended) |
| 135. (previously presented) | 164. (previously added) |
| 136. (previously presented) | 165. (cancelled) |
| 137. (previously presented) | 166. (currently amended) |

109. (currently amended) A method of controlling the field of view of any camera in a system in a single area including at least two cameras in the single area, a single automatic control system for controlling the field of view of the cameras including memory means for remembering commands and at least two control devices being movable respectively by at least two users independently of the automatic control system and the cameras to a selected location capable of sending commands to the automatic control system for controlling the field of view of the cameras comprising the steps of:

A. associating each of the at least two control devices with respective of at least two users at respective locations selected by the respective at least two users;

B. associating at least one field of view of one camera with a control device at a location selected by a respective one of at least two users;

C. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system a field of view of the camera associated in step B;

D. issuing a command from one control device of the at least two control devices to the automatic control system;

E. identifying by the automatic control system the control device that issued the command in step D;

F. automatically moving by the automatic control system the field of view of the camera to the field of view position remembered in step C and associated with the control device identified in step E;

G. issuing a command from another of the at least two control devices to the automatic camera system;

H. identifying by the automatic control system the control device that issued the command in step G;

I. automatically moving by the automatic control system the field of view of the camera to the field of view position remembered in step C and associated with the control device identified in step H; and

J. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system the control device that issued the command in step D after a command of step G has been received by the automatic control system and after each command has been implemented and completed by the automatic control system.

110. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 wherein step C includes the step of:

H. issuing commands from each of the control devices of step A to remember a field of view position of the camera of step c.

111. (previously presented) The method of Claim 110 wherein step F includes the step of:

I. moving the field of view of the camera of step C to the field of view position remembered in step G associated with the remembered control device of step H that issued the respective command.

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112. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 wherein step C includes the step of:

H. remembering the position of the camera field of view of step C with respect to a known reference.

113. (previously presented) The method of Claim 112 wherein step H includes the step of:

I. remembering the position of the camera field of view of step C in a first plane.

114. (previously presented) The method of Claim 112 wherein step H includes the step of:

J. remembering the position of the camera field of view of step C in two planes.

115. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 wherein step C includes the steps of:

H. remembering specific variables of the camera of step C for each field of view remembered; and

I. automatically recalling the remembered variables when the field of view is recalled in step F.

116. (previously presented) The method of Claim 115 wherein step H includes the step of:

J. remembering the iris setting of the camera field of view of step C.

117. (previously presented) The method of Claim 115 wherein step H includes the step of:

K. remembering the zoom perspective of the camera field of view of step C.

118. (previously presented) The method of Claim 117 further including the step of:

L. automatically maintaining the zoom perspective remembered in step F when the camera field of view of step C is moved in step F.

119. (previously presented) The method of Claim 115 wherein step H includes the steps of:

J. remembering the position of the camera field of view of step C in at least one plane;

K. remembering the zoom perspective of the camera field of view of step C; and

L. remembering the iris setting of the camera field of view of step C.

120. (previously presented) The method of Claim 119 wherein step F includes the steps of:

M. moving the position of the camera field of view of step C to the remembered position of step J;

N. changing the zoom perspective of the camera of step C to the remembered position of step K; and

O. changing the zoom perspective of the camera of step C to the remembered setting of step L.

121. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 further including the step of:

H. issuing a command to override subsequent commands from control devices affecting control of the field of view of a camera.

122. (cancelled)

123. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 further including the steps of:

H. controlling the field of view variables of a camera;

I. remembering the field of view variables of the camera that are associated in step C; and

J. automatically establishing for the camera the field of view variables remembered in step I for the field of view position remembered in step C whenever the field of view position is recalled.

124. (previously presented) The method of Claim 109 wherein step C includes the step of:

H. remembering a specific field of view position that can be recalled by a command from a control device of step B.

125. (previously presented) The method of Claim 124 wherein step H include the step of:

I. issuing a command by a control device of step B to change the field of view to the specific field of view position remembered in step C.

126. (currently amended) A method of controlling the field of view of any camera in a single area in a system having at least two cameras in the single area, a single automatic control system for controlling the field of view of each of the at least two cameras including memory means for remembering commands and at least two control devices in the single area being movable by at least two users in the single area independently of the automatic control system and the at least two cameras to selected locations capable of sending commands to the automatic control system for controlling the field of view of each of the at least two cameras comprising the steps of:

A. associating each of the at least two control devices with respective at least two users at respective locations selected by the respective at least two users;

B. associating at least one field of view of each of at least two cameras with a respective control device at locations selected by a respective one of at least two users;

C. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system a field of view of each of at least two cameras associated in step B;

D. issuing a command from any of the at least two control devices to the automatic control system;

E. identifying by the automatic control system the control device that issued the command in step D;

F. associating any of the at least two control devices with a respective first camera of the at least two cameras;

G. associating any of the at least two control devices with a respective second camera of the at least two cameras;

H. changing the field of view position of one of the at least two cameras associated with a field of view remembered in step C to provide a field of view position remembered in step C associated with the control device in step E; and

I. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system the control device that issued the command of step D after the command has been issued and after the respective command has been implemented and completed by the automatic control system and after any subsequent command of step D.

127. (previously presented) The method of Claim 126 wherein step C includes the steps of:

I. issuing commands from each of the at least two control devices to remember different field of view positions of each of the at least two cameras by the automatic control system.

128. (previously added) The method of Claim 126 wherein step C includes the steps of:

I. issuing commands from each of the at least two control devices to remember different field of view positions of each of the at least two cameras by the automatic control system.


129. (previously added) The method of Claim 128 wherein step C includes the step of:

J. remembering a zoom perspective of each camera field of view.

130. (previously presented) The method of Claim 126 further including the steps of:

I. providing by each of at least two cameras a video output signal; and

J. selecting a video output signal provided in step I.

 131. (previously presented) The method of Claim 130 wherein the step J includes the step of:

K. automatically selecting the video output signal associated with the respective second camera of step G.

132. (previously presented) The method of Claim 126 wherein step C includes the step of:

I. remembering a specific field of view position that can be recalled by a command from any of the at least two control devices.

133. (previously added) The method of Claim 132 wherein step I includes the step of:

J. issuing a command by a control device to change the field of view to the specific field of view position remembered in step C.

134. (previously presented) The method of Claim 126 further including the steps of:

I. selectively enabling the transmission of an audio signal associated with one or more of the at least two control devices; and

135. (previously presented) The method of Claim 134 further including the step of:

- K. automatically selecting the audio signal from the control device identified in step E.

136. (previously presented) The method of Claim 135 wherein step K includes the step of:

- L. automatically disabling audio signals associated with the at least one control device not selected.

137. (previously presented) The method of Claim 134 wherein step J includes the step of:

- K. automatically selecting audio signals associated with all of the at least two control devices when one control device of the at least two control devices is identified in step E.

138. (previously presented) The method of Claim 134 wherein step I includes the steps of:

- K. establishing a plurality of groups of the at least two control devices; and
- L. selectively enabling audio signals associated with at least one group established in

step K.

139. (previously presented) The method of Claim 138 wherein step J includes the step of:

- M. automatically selecting the audio signals associated with the group of control devices enabled in step L.

140. (previously presented) The method of Claim 138 wherein step K includes the step of:

- M. automatically selecting the audio signals associated with the group of control devices with which the control device of step E is one of the group.

141. (previously presented) The method of Claim 126 further including the steps of:

- I. providing an automatic tracking system for the at least two cameras;
- J. issuing a second command for automatic tracking of the control device that issued the command of step D; and
- K. controlling the field of view in step H to automatically track the control device of step D.

142. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step J includes the step of:

- L. issuing a command by the control device to provide automatic tracking of the control device only for as long as the command is being continuously issued.

143. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step J includes the step of:

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- L. issuing a command by another of the at least two control devices to provide automatic tracking of another control device and cessation of automatic tracking of the control device of step J.

144. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 further including the steps of:

- L. providing by each of the at least two cameras a video output signal; and
- M. selectively providing a camera video output signal from the at least two cameras.

145. (previously presented) The method of Claim 144 wherein step M includes the step of:

- N. automatically selecting the camera video output signal associated with the first camera of step F.

146. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step C includes the step of:

- L. remembering a specific field of view position for one of at least two cameras that can be recalled by a command from any of the at least two control devices.

147. (previously presented) The method of Claim 146 wherein step L includes the step of:
M. issuing a command by any of the at least two control devices to change the field of view to the specific field of view position remembered in step C.

148. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 further including the step of:
L. issuing a command to override subsequent commands affecting control of the field of view of the camera.

149. (previously presented) The method of Claim 148 further including the step of:
M. issuing a command to restore the responsive capability to commands from each of the at least two control devices.

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150. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 further including the steps of:
L. remembering field of view variables for one of the at least two control devices that is being tracked; and
M. recalling remembered variables when the one control device is being automatically tracked.

151. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 further including the step of:
L. remembering variables associated with automatic tracking of one of the at least two control devices.

152. (previously presented) The method of Claim 151 wherein step L includes the step of:
M. remembering the location in the field of view that the one control device is to be maintained during automatic tracking.

153. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step J includes the step of:
L. issuing a command by one of the at least two control devices to provide automatic tracking of the one control device only for as long as the command is being continuously issued.

154. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step J includes the step of:

L. issuing a command by another of the at least two control devices to provide for automatic tracking of the another control device and the cessation of automatic tracking of the control device of step J.

155. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 wherein step K includes the step of:

L. ceasing the automatic tracking of the control device that issued the command of step J when the tracking system has moved to the desired location with the field of view of a camera relative to the control device.

156. (previously presented) The method of Claim 141 further including the steps of:

L. selectively enabling the transmission of an audio signal associated with one or more of the at least two devices; and

M. automatically selecting which of the at least two control devices will transmit an audio signal.

157. (previously presented) The method of Claim 156 further including the step of:

N. automatically selecting the audio signal from the control device identified in step E.

158. (previously presented) The method of Claim 157 wherein step M includes the step of:

O. automatically disabling audio signals associated with at least one control device not selected.

159. (previously presented) The method of Claim 156 wherein step M includes the step of:

N. automatically selecting audio signals associated with all of at least two control devices wherever any user is tracked.

160. (previously presented) The method of Claim 156 wherein step M includes the steps of:

- N. establishing a plurality of groups of the at least two control devices; and
- O. selectively enabling audio signals associated with at least one group established in step N.

161. (previously presented) The method of Claim 160 wherein step M includes the step of:

- P. automatically selecting the audio signals associated with the group of control devices enabled in step O.

162. (previously presented) The method of Claim 161 wherein step M includes the step of:

- P. automatically selecting the audio signals associated with a group of control devices with which the control device being tracked is one of the group.

163. (currently amended) A system for controlling the field of view variables of any camera in the system in a single area comprising at least two cameras in a single area, a single automatic control means for adjusting said field of view control variables of each said camera, at least two control devices being movable respectively by at least two users independently of said automatic control means and each said camera, said automatic control means including means for associating each of said at least two control devices with respective at least two users at respective locations selected by the respective at least two users and for associating said field of view of each said camera with respective control device at a location selected by the respective of at least two users, said control devices being movable to selected locations for sending commands to said automatic control means, said automatic control means including first circuit means for identifying one said control device of said at least two control devices in said selected locations that has sent a command to said automatic control means and including memory means for identifying and remembering each said command sent by said one control device, said command including identity information indicative of respective said

one control device[,] which sent said command, said memory means of said automatic control means remembering said identity information of said one control device after said command has been sent by said one control device to enable said field of view to be moved to one of the fields remembered and after said command sent by said one control device has been implemented by said automatic control means, said automatic control means further including second circuit means for identifying another said control device of said at least two control devices in said selected location that has sent a command to said automatic control means, said [and] memory means [for] identifying and remembering each said command sent by said another control device, said command from said another control device including identity information indicative of respective said another control device which sent said command, said memory means of said automatic control means remembering said identity information of said another control device after said command has been sent by said another control device to enable said field of view to be moved to one of the fields remembered and after said command sent by said another control device has been implemented and completed by said automatic control means, [and memory means for identifying each said command sent by said another control device, said command including identity information indicative of respective said another device which sent said command, said automatic control means remembering said identity information of said another control device after said command has been sent by said another control device to enable said field of view to be moved to one of the fields remembered.]

164. (previously added) The system as defined in Claim 163 wherein said circuit means includes memory means for remembering specific variables associated with each field of view.

165. (cancelled)

166. (currently amended) A method of controlling the field of view of any camera in a system in a single area including at least two cameras in a single area and memory means for remembering commands, a single automatic control system for controlling the field of view of the cameras and at least two control devices being movable respectively by at least two users independently of the automatic control system and the camera to a selected location capable of sending commands to the automatic control system for controlling the field of view of the camera comprising the steps of:

A. associating each of at least two control devices with respective at least two users at respective locations selected by the respective at least two users;

B. associating at least one field of view of a camera with a control device at a location selected by a respective at least two users;

C. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system the variables that define each field of view of the camera associated in step B;

D. automatically identifying by the automatic control system the field of view variable of a camera that a control device associated with the variables remembered in step C;

E. issuing a command from the control device identified in step D;

F. automatically changing the field of view of a camera to the field of view remembered in step C and associated with a control device identified in step D;

G. automatically identifying by the automatic control system the field of view variable another control device associated with the variables remembered in step C;

H. issuing a command from the control device identified in step G;

I. automatically changing the field of view of the camera to the field of view remembered in step C and associated with a control device identified in step G; and

J. remembering by the memory means of the automatic control system the control device that issued the command in step E after the command of step H has been issued and after each command has been implemented and completed.